

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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| APPLICANTS:    | De Groot <i>et al.</i>  | CONFIRMATION NO.: | 1785             |
| SERIAL NUMBER: | 10/534,777  | GROUP NO.:        | 1626             |
| FILING DATE:   | December 20, 2005   | EXAMINER:         | Joseph R. Kosack |
| TITLE:         | PRODRUGS BUILT AS MULTIPLE SELF-ELIMINATION-<br>RELEASE SPACERS |                   |                  |

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE**

Sir:

Applicants submit this paper in response to the Office action mailed from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on September 4, 2009 ("Office Action").

Applicants believe no extension or fee is required for this paper. However, please consider this a conditional petition for the proper extension, if one is required, and a conditional authorization to charge any related extension fees or other necessary fees for entry of this paper to Deposit Account No. 50-1721.

Please amend without prejudice the above-identified patent application as follows.

**Amendments to the Claims** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 26 of this paper.